

Establishing and Implementing Timelines: Classroom Rules Implementation Checklist

Before the First Day of School

1. Decide which activities in your classroom should be covered by rules.
2. Decide what kinds of rules you want to use to structure each activity in your classroom.

On the First Day of School

1. Conduct a group discussion with the students to obtain their suggestions and additions for the sets of classroom rules.
2. Have the students work together in groups to make rules posters to put up in the classroom or make the posters yourself after school and put them up before the start of the second day of school.

On the First or Second Day of School

1. Conduct rule-training sessions with students just before beginning the first activity of each type for which you have established rules.
2. Try to catch the students following the rules as often as you can and praise them for doing so.
3. Encourage students to support each other in rule following by reminding each other of the rules for an activity before it begins and by thanking each other for following the rules.

On Subsequent Days of School

1. Review the rules with the students each Monday for the first few weeks of school, on the first day of school following a holiday or vacation (state education association conferences, parent-teacher conferences, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.), or whenever it seems necessary.
2. Continue to catch students following the rules several times each day and reward them with your attention.
3. Continue to encourage students to support each other in rule following.

Source: Paine, S.C.,m Radicchi, J., Rosellini, L.C., Deutchman, L., and Darch, C.B. (1983). Structuring Your Classroom for Academic Success. Champaign, Il: Research Press.